

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

Upon reception of a label request for a new flow,  
a path setup device searches label switched paths (LPSs)  
5 which have already been set up for comparison with a  
path contained in the label request. If there exists  
an LSP of the same path as that in the label request,  
the same label as that of the LSP is allocated. If no  
such LSP exists, a new label is allocated. An LSP is  
10 set up based on the allocated label.